

STIGMATA

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THE PROJECT STIGMA REPORT ON THE CONTINUING INVESTIGATION INTO THE OCCURRENCE OF ANIMAL MUTILATIONS

STIGMATA

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LATE NEWS

As we go to press, we learn that Ken Rommel, in a hastily-called news conference on April 15, 1980, announced that his final report, to be released in June, would indicate that "natural predators, not man, are responsible for the cattle mutilation deaths discovered over the past five years" (ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL, April 16, 1980) (see the next two pages). Sen. Harrison Schmitt, however, does not think Rommel's report will be "definitive".

THE ROMMEL PROBE

WORST FEARS REALIZED

In May 1979 a Law Enforcement Assistance Administration grant of near-\$50,000 established a year-long mutilation probe under the auspices of the District Attorney's office in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and under the direction of former FBI agent Kenneth Rommel. At the outset, Project Stigma supported the probe - hoping against hope that it would be carried out in an objective, open and unprejudiced manner. We gave Rommel the benefit of a doubt, though we could never shake that gnawing feeling in the pit of our stomachs. Project Stigma decided early on that the best approach to the Rommel probe was to ignore it. As time passed it seemed more and more a tangential diversion to be avoided. But we wanted to give the man his full year to establish - if not compelling conclusions - at least credibility and a semblance of rational integrity. However, Rommel has already informed several sources that he will be putting the mute matter to rest when his findings are announced. And what are his findings? It seems likely that there are no real or "classic" mutilations; most or all mutes are caused by predators following natural deaths, complicated by misinterpretation, hoaxing and outright falsification of reports by lawmen, investigators and veterinarians intoxicated with a cute mute frenzy. It is understood that Rommel will recommend that no further money (taxpayers' money, at least) be wasted on any additional study and research into animal mutilations. We hope we are wrong - or that we have misinterpreted what we have heard - but the signs are discouraging.

Any attempt at a point-by-point refutation of Rommel's findings and conclusions will have to wait until the final report is issued. At this writing, plans are underway for an alternative media conference, at which evidence supporting the continued reality and viability of the mute phenomenon will be presented. If this comes about, we'll report on it in STIGMATA.

We urge our readers to write to their Senators and Representatives, on the state and federal level. They need to know of the continued public interest and concern in "our" problem. But in reality - the best hope for continued progress in seeking solutions to the mutila-

tion puzzle lies with privately-funded and supported efforts to sustain the investigation.

We might add that David Perkins of Animal Mutilation Probe (Farisita, Colorado), writing in TAOS (New Mexico) Magazine, reports on an interview with Kenneth Rommel conducted by Perkins and Cari Seawell. Rommel told them that his final report would "'expose' all the idiots responsible for propagating the foolishness". The real reason for individuals and civilian investigators getting interested in the mutilation problem was "'to be more popular at cocktail parties'". His findings would undoubtedly ruin some careers, Rommel said, although he wanted those championing the reality of mutants to have the opportunity to back off from their positions. Moreover, says Perkins, Rommel admitted that "he had reached his conclusions almost immediately after accepting the job".

It is said that Ken Rommel is an intelligent and thorough investigator - and that his search for "evidence" to support his thesis has been meticulous. Taking all of this into consideration - and considering the evidence supporting the "extramundane legitimacy" of the animal mutilations - doesn't it sound as though something is terribly wrong in Santa Fe? Is this a case of a fanatically misguided G-man on his last legs? Or does the almost-desperate tone of some of Rommel's pronouncements belie the very special sensitivity of a topic, the lid of which must be firmly slammed shut?

One cannot help but notice the parallels between the Santa Fe mute probe and the shameful "Condon Committee" UFO investigation at the University of Colorado in the late 1960's. The late Dr. Condon's reputation was soiled by his involvement in the unethical and wasteful UFO "study". All too often, his name draws snickers or even derisive commentary. Is this the kind of legacy that Ken Rommel seeks? Or did he enter the probe honestly and objectively only to be stifled by higher echelons? Is he sacrificing his reputation in a matter that - more than anything else - might be a concern of national security? Such questions remain - and they are likely to remain for a very long time.

MUTE SITE INDENTATIONS

Frequent mention is made of the seeming lack of culprit-tracks around mutilation sites. In some cases, however, evidence exists that "something" interacted with ground or grass to produce depressions or indentations. Mutilation cases which include such markings are rare; in fact, they seem curiously concentrated in Colorado and Northern New Mexico. We'll look at a few representative cases, then compare them with recognized UFO landing traces. For the purpose of this brief analysis, we have included only indentation and "pod mark" cases, excluding other such "ground traces" as burn marks or flattened areas. There are other types of marks, as well: Helicopter landing gear tracks or helicopter "skid" marks (Colorado, South Dakota); odd tracks which don't seem to relate to any known conveyance or equipment, such as the semi-circular track near Goodeve, Saskatchewan (See STIGMATA #8, pp. 18-19). And, at the site of a bull mutilation in Cascade Co., Montana in November 1976, five indentations, 74 inches apart, were found in nearby brush. The impressions were about 14 inches long and 6½ inches wide, and the deepest measured 5 inches in depth (GREAT FALLS TRIBUNE (MT), 11-10-76, 11-14-76). Now, a few sample events:

(1) Alamosa County, Colorado - September 1967

In the fabled "Snippy" horse mutilation case - approx. 58 feet from the mutilated carcass, one of two chico bushes seemed to have been crushed and flattened as though by a heavy weight from above. Surrounding this one bush were 8 indentations. Each was 2½" (6.35 cm.) in diameter and 5" (12.70 cm.) deep. The marks were equidistant from each other in a line and formed a circle 3 ft. (91.44 cm.) in diameter. Scattered in a stand of chico brush west of the horses carcass were found larger "tracks" which to some were suggestive of the print of some large beast. The marks led away to a point approx. 500 yards from the carcass. Each imprint was 18" (45.72 cm.) long and 12" (30.48 cm.) wide, and the individual tracks were about 7 ft. (2.13 meters) apart. A photo of one of these tracks was published in FATE magazine (#1, below, page 36). Forest Ranger Duane Martin examined the site with a geiger counter and reported finding a much higher-than-normal intensity of radiation. The readings were most intense around the crushed chico bush and around burn marks scattered around the site; but the readings decreased notably as Martin neared the carcass.

(1) (Continued)

Sources:

- (1) Sketch by Aerial Phenomena Research Organization investigator Donald Richmond, as published in FATE, March 1968 ("The Appaloosa From Alamosa" by Coral Lorenzen, p. 37).
- (2) KANSAS CITY STAR, 11-17-68.
- (3) Saunders, David R. and Harkins, R. Roger, UFOs? YES!; Signet Books (New American Library); 1968

(2) Lake County, South Dakota - October 1974

A mutilated cow, whose jawbones had been "cut out and crossed", was discovered within sight of a house near Chester, SD. Ten feet from the carcass were three pairs of indentations in the shape of a triangle (with each pair at a "point"). Each impression was approx. 4 inches deep.

Source:

- (1) RAPID CITY JOURNAL (South Dakota), 10-10-74.

(3) Garden Hills sector of San Juan, Puerto Rico - January 1975.

Not a mutilation case (though animal mutilations and strange deaths plagued Puerto Rico beginning in spring of 1975) but included for comparison with indentations at mute sites:

One night a bright multi-colored UFO was seen and mysterious humming sounds were heard. A few days later, an inspection of the ground under which the light(s) was seen revealed 3 indentations forming an equilateral triangle; each side measuring 44" (111.76 cm.). Each imprint was 3" (7.62 cm.) deep and 4" (10.16 cm.) in diameter. A study by Foundation Engineering Laboratories indicated that an average weight of 14,190 lbs. (7.10 tons) would be required to make such imprints on that type of soil. After many months, grass failed to grow back where the imprints were found (Grass often fails to grow back, or grows back very slowly, where the carcasses of mutilated animals have lain; examples include the "Snippy" case (above) as well as some cases in the 1970's).

Source:

- (1) Robiou Lamarche, Sebastian; "UFOs and Mysterious Deaths of Animals", FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, Vol.22, no. 6 - reprinted from the Spanish journal STENDEK.

(4) Rio Arriba County, New Mexico, near Dulce - June 1976. (Cont.)

(4) Rio Arriba County, New Mexico, near Dulce - June 1976.

As many as three cattle mutilations were reported within a few days. Round "pod prints" were found by cattle owner Manuel Gomez (who has gained a dubious fame as one of the hardest-hit victims of mutilators over several years) on his initial visit to the site of a mutilation. When he returned to the site later, with State Police Officer Gabe Valdez, more similar indentations were discovered, including some on top of the tire tracks Gomez left on his first inspection of the site. Additionally, the animal had been mutilated more extensively.

Two types of tracks were found at the site:

**As though made by round "inverted suction cups" - 4" (10.16 cm.) in diameter and about 1" (2.54 cm.) deep. The imprints were found in two straight lines extending for approx. 500 ft. (152.40 meters), with 28" (71.12 cm.) between each indentation.

**The lines of smaller prints appeared to converge on a spot where a different type of indentation was found to form a tripod arrangement. Each individual imprint (at the "points" of the triangle) was itself triangular, approx. 13"* (33.02 cm.) on each side. The 3 indentations were spaced 6 ft. (1.83 meters) apart on two sides, with the third side being 5 ft. (1.52 meters) long.

As in the "Snippy" case, radiation measurements - though inconclusive - were made. They again indicated higher readings in and around the indentations, with a decrease as one approached the carcass of the mutilated cow. Small bushes around the imprints appeared wilted and dying, and an oily substance was found near the prints. At least 8 UFO sightings had been reported in the area in the preceding weeks, including one on the night before Manuel Gomez discovered the mutilation.

Sources:

- (1) Burgess, Howard and Lovola; "Cattle Mutilation: Witchcraft Rituals or Space Invasion"; BEYOND REALITY - December 1977.
- (2) Thompson, Fritz; "Cattle Mutilators"; IMPACT, ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL Magazine; October 25, 1977.

*13" is Burgess' figure; Thompson says 14". Thompson quotes Gabe Valdez, who inspected the site; but Burgess inspected the site, also.

- (5) Logan County, Colorado, NE of Iliff, Discovered 9-11-76.
At a cattle mutilation site, two distinctive sets of tracks:
1. The largest - circular - 5" (12.70 cm.) deep and from 6 to 7 inches (15.24 to 17.78 cm.) in diameter (Jackson's figures). Aldridge (4-24-77) says they were 2.5" (6.34 cm.) deep. The tracks were about 100 yards from the mutilated carcass, and were scattered in no discernible pattern. Aldridge says they appeared as though made by "round-bottom plates".
 2. Smaller marks, nearer the carcass - numerous tripod formations. Each "point" was a track 4" (10.16 cm.) in diameter. Jackson (9-13-76) says two sides of each triangle were 5 ft. (152.40 cm.) long and the third side was 4½ ft. (137.16 cm.). Again, Aldridge differs, stating that Logan County Sheriff Graves' findings were that the "triangle" was equilateral - each side 5 ft. long.

Strange lights had been seen in the sky the night before the mutilated cow was found (not an uncommon occurrence in Logan County in the mid-1970's).

Sources:

- (1) STERLING (Colo.) JOURNAL-ADVOCATE, 9-13-76;
Reporter: Bill Jackson
- (2) COLORADO SPRINGS GAZETTE-TELEGRAPH, 4-24-77;
Reporter: Dorothy Aldridge

- (6) Logan County, Colorado, north of Iliff, approx. 9-11-76.
At the site of the sixty-first Logan County mute, an undetermined number of indentations - 4" (10.15 cm.) in diameter - were found in the "immediate area" of the carcass. No specific "formation" or arrangement of tracks was noted.

Source:

- (1) STERLING (Colo.) JOURNAL-ADVOCATE, 9-14-76

- (7) Logan County, Colorado, near Atwood; Discovered 11-20-76.
"Strange pod marks made by an unknown vehicle" found near a mutilated carcass were described as similar to the tripod-formation in case no. 8.

Source:

- (1) STERLING (Colo.) JOURNAL-ADVOCATE, 11-22-76 & 11-23-76

- (8) Logan County, Colorado, near Atwood; Discovered 11-20-76.
(Continued - next page)

- (8) Logan County, Colorado, near Atwood; Discovered 11-20-76. Mutilated carcass discovered 3/4 mile from carcass in case no. 7. "Strange skid marks" were noted approx. 50 ft. away from the carcass by sheriff's officials who investigated the site on Saturday, the 20th; plans were made to return to the scene on Monday, the 22nd. On this second visit, additional "marks" were discovered: 3 circular indentations - each approx. 1½" (3.8 cm.) deep. The 3 imprints formed a triangle with sides 12" (30.48 cm.) long.

The office of Sheriff H.L. "Tex" Graves received "several reports" of strange airborne lights on Friday night, 11-19-76, some observed by investigating officers.

Source:

(1) STERLING (Colo.) JOURNAL-ADVOCATE, 11-22-76 & 11-23-76

- (9) Logan County, Colorado, near Proctor, Discovered 11-24-76. "Rectangular-shaped impressions" were found near the carcass of the 69th Logan County mutilation. The marks were "not clear enough to determine size or a pattern". On Tuesday night, Nov. 23rd, strange lights were observed in the sky over Proctor.

Source:

(1) STERLING (Colo.) JOURNAL-ADVOCATE, 11-24-76

In order to get an idea of how the mute site indentations correlate with imprint patterns found at "conventional" UFO landing sites, we referred to the following paper:

Merritt, Fred, "A Preliminary Classification of Some Reports of Unidentified Flying Objects Based on Shape and Dimensions of Imprint Patterns"; published in PROCEEDINGS OF THE 1976 CUFOS CONFERENCE (Center For UFO Studies; Evanston, Illinois; 1976)

Merritt reports that Dr. David Saunders' UFOCAT computer file of over 80,000 UFO reports contains only 110 imprint cases, so indentations at UFO landing or apparent-landing sites are not all that common.

Merritt assembled a representative sampling of 37 UFO landing-imprint reports which he classified into 5 groups or "catenas" according to the imprint pattern, shape and size.

On the whole, as judged by Merritt's data, the mute site imprint patterns (such as tripod arrangements) are notably smaller than

those at recognized UFO landing sites. Of Merritt's five classifications, only his "Catena IV" begins to approximate the mute site size and patterns. Even in this group, only four reports feature "triangles" with sides measuring 2 meters or less in length, with none less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ meters. Most tripod patterns at mute sites measure less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ meters per side, so the mute site imprints do not match all that well with the "conventional" UFO landing traces.

Merritt's "Catena IV", by the way, typically includes some of the more unusual, even absurd, UFO reports, featuring bizarre, aggressive occupants and UFOs. The craft themselves are frequently described as odd-shaped.

These findings and comparisons are anything but final, as more data, detail and close analysis is required. It would be interesting to compare the dimensions of the individual indentations, but adequate information is not now available.

CORRECTIONS, RETRACTIONS AND ELUCIDATIONS

****Re: UFO TERMS** by Robert S. Somerville, reviewed in STIGMATA #7: Because of needed corrections and revisions, Mr. Somerville has withdrawn his book from publication. We regret that such a situation has arisen; but we wish Bob luck in securing a publisher and getting the book re-issued.

****Correction:** In STIGMATA #8, page 19, mid-page: "MELVILLE ADVOCATE" should be "MELVILLE ADVANCE". The ADVANCE is published in Melville, Saskatchewan by Denis Corneau, who has published a considerable amount of material on mutilations.

****The report on mutilations in countries other than the U.S. and Canada** - which had been scheduled for this issue - will appear next edition. We thank in advance the kind readers who have offered to help with the translation of Spanish-language articles.

****Producer Linda Howe's "A Strange Harvest"**, a television documentary film on mutilations, is scheduled for airing in May on KMGH in Denver. We'll plan to review it in the near future.

Letters

It would be comforting if all the mutilations were cultist or CIA activities. What I fear is that at least some of them are hyper-spatial/collective unconscious phenomena along the lines proposed by Tom Bearden, et al. Not only are these mutilations past the beginning but also the range of mutilations will extend to humans as political/military confrontation on the physical plane becomes imminent.

Richard Schulz
Los Angeles, California

I was prompted to make these comments as a result of a statement made in STIGMATA #8 (page 21) by cult expert and University of Alberta professor Bill Meilen. When questioned by the EDMONTON SUN (11-13-79), he stated, "Though he 'would like to avoid' the term 'UFO', Meilen feels that all the evidence extant regarding mutilations 'points to biopsies being performed by beings using a means of flight beyond our comprehension'. "Meilen told reporter Lance Beswick that among the Canadian mute items of pertinence to be addressed are:

**The discovery of fractures in many of the animals consistent with injuries caused by being dropped from a height of at least 10 feet.

**Thousands of flies found on the corpses died strangely without apparent reason."

Investigation of a classic mutilation of a cow on the farm of LaVerne Fox in Henderson County, Illinois (6-8-76): In that case all sex organs and the entire bag of the cow had been removed with such skill that the membrane behind the bag was not even punctured. Although the sheriff and veterinarian did not mention it, Mr. Fox noticed that when the flies came in contact with the membrane they died. He said he did not mention this to the others. The case mentioned by Bill Meilen is the only other case that I know of concerning flies dying when coming in contact with a carcass. The only thing that I can think of that might cause that would be radiation. The cause of death was never determined by the veterinar-

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painlessly killed it. A 24-hour surveillance was put on the animal, and according to Sheriff Marshall, "No human being got near that animal - there were no *UFOs or little green men.*"

"In 18 hours, we had an *exact duplication* of the so-called mutilation", stated Sheriff Marshall.

According to Sheriff Marshall, the eyes were the first to go which were eaten by buzzards and birds. The cow's tongue, udder, genitals and lower bowel protruded from the body soon after death where the skunks feasted on them. Later, rigor mortis set in, and the protruding organs retracted back into the cow's body. Sheriff Marshall says, "They'd already been chewed off close to the body, so the organs looked like they had been cut out of the animal's body." The blowflies fed on the areas the skunks had been chewing, giving the appearance the organs had been cut with a sharp knife. The mysterious white powder found on the animal was buzzard droppings and the markings were beak marks. A *phone call* to the vet *explained* the "draining" of the blood from the corpse - *it's simply absorbed into the body.*

Sheriff Marshall thinks these natural events account for up to 95% of the so-called livestock mutilations, with the rest probably being done by individuals such as "kids" duplicating what they have read in the papers.

This "controlled experiment" might satisfy Ken Rommel (*Editor's note: Kenneth Rommel is the ex-FBI agent now conducting a mutilation probe out of the Dist. Attorney's office in Santa Fe, New Mexico, funded by a almost-\$50,000 grant from the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration*) and the general public, but it is a poor explanation for the classic mutilations and does not support all the *facts* that have been found in various states in the U.S. and in Canada. Anyone who has done some serious investigations into this matter can fill this theory full of holes.

It is also equally strange that the DCI (Department of Criminal Investigations) in Iowa where recent mutants have been found is still looking for satanic cults. Apparently, they have not heard of the "controlled experiment", do you suppose?

Another interesting factor is that Rommel seems to lean toward

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ian. There was no blood on or around the carcass. *(Editor's note: Insects dying upon contact with a mutilated carcass have been reported in other cases, though infrequently.)*

Investigation on the Gordon Melvin farm in Warren County, Illinois (1-23-77): This case involved so-called "mystery helicopters" that were reported prior to the mutilation. Several nights before the discovery of the mutilated cow, the State Police received a report from a CB'er that three objects, which they said were helicopters without lights, were moving slowly west at a low altitude towards Burlington, Iowa. Two State Police officers sighted the objects coming toward them and they stopped their car to get a better look. The objects rapidly gained altitude and were soon out of sight. One of the objects had a bright white light running the length of the underside of it like a lighted rod. There were no other lights. They contacted the Burlington airport and there were no flight plans for three helicopters. Needless to say they did not show up there. Could these objects be mistaken for UFOs? The State Police never mentioned having heard any noise, but the temperature being below freezing, they might not have lowered their windows. If these were indeed helicopters they must have had a "secret or hidden base of operation" for maintenance and refueling. None has ever been discovered in this area or any other area as far as I know.

Gordon Melvin's cow was found with its feet in the air (on its back) in an inaccessible spot (except by foot). All those who saw the carcass (sheriff, vet, insurance agent and Mr. Melvin) agreed it had to have been dropped from the air. There were no footprints or evidence of humans near the carcass. There were no marks on the hooves or around the belly of the carcass to indicate how the cow had been lifted. One ear had been cleanly removed and the udders had been snipped off as if it had been done by a pair of scissors. Mr. Melvin lived only 80 rod from where the cow was found. He heard no noise prior to the discovery of the carcass that would indicate a helicopter.

These two cases alone have led me to believe that UFOs could very well be responsible. I can think of no other explanation.

Among many law officers the cult theory seems to be the most predominant. The irony of it is that these same law officers are very

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reluctant to conduct an extensive investigation to support their theory and bring the culprits to justice. For example: In the case of the LaVerne Fox mutilation in Henderson County, Illinois, I contacted the Henderson County sheriff (Mr. Daryl Thompson) and asked his opinion. He immediately said it was the work of a religious cult, whereupon I remarked that since he was so sure he should be able to make an arrest soon. He responded by saying he had no idea who they were. Mr. Fox later told me that since the first day that Mr. Thompson was there to view the carcass, he had not seen or heard from him since. Apparently no extensive investigation was ever made. In the most recent rash of mutilations around Des Moines, Iowa, the Chief of the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation, Gerald Shanahan, and his assistant, Mr. Motsinger, seem to have considerable evidence that witchcraft and/or cultists are responsible. (See Stigmata #8, page 3) Mr. Shanahan did not hesitate to release this evidence to the press, which gave me the impression he was using "scare tactics" in the hope those responsible would go elsewhere (out of his jurisdiction) to continue their operations. In my opinion, an extensive investigation should have been conducted undercover if he really wanted to catch the criminals involved.

Grant Callison, Field Investigator
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I am sure that by now most serious livestock mutilation researchers and investigators have been faced with the recent publicised account of the "controlled experiment" conducted in Arkansas by Sheriff Herb Marshall of the Washington County Sheriff's Dept. (see Stigmata #8, page 2). Those not familiar with this issue, I will summarize the account and quote directly the statements made by Sheriff Marshall.

To prove the *predator theory*, Washington County Sheriff Herb Marshall of Fayetteville, Arkansas did a little experiment on a ranch which had been the scene of three mutilations. The Sheriff's team took a *sick* cow to the vicinity of a recent mutilation, where they

LETTERS (Continued)

the predator theory, but yet the Santa Fe office in New Mexico recently gave some photos from New Mexico showing "identical characteristics down to *minute* details" to those recorded in Iowa. Jerry Shanahan, director of the DCI, stated, "We have pictures from New Mexico showing where the lip was cut off exactly at the same place on the mouth - right at the same tooth - as our cases here in Iowa." Quite a feat for predators, wouldn't you think? Unless of course we have predators that truly believe in consistency.

Isn't it strange how the predator theory keeps popping up since 1973? It really does look like that someone wants the public to believe this nonsense.

Another troublesome aspect is that many UFO buffs have entered the picture of mutilation investigations with far-out theories, thus ruining the respectability of a possible UFO-mute connection. As you will notice UFOs are always associated with "*little green men*". And UFOs are also associated with "*extraterrestrial spaceships*." Many lawmen have shyed away from the discussion of UFOs in relation to mutes because of the public association with this phenomenon. I find this very disturbing since UFOs represent an *unknown* and not an extraterrestrial spaceship or little green men. There are enough reports to date to indicate that some type of *unknown* aircraft, be it helicopter or nonconventional, *is connected* with *some* of these mutilations, or for lack of a better word - dissections.

Granted, there is a certain percentage of these mutilations that *are* due to predators and pranks, *but not 95 percent!* I highly suggest to all lawmen and investigators that we really look at the facts, *all of the facts*.

Tommy R. Blann
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Lewisville, Texas 75067

Editor's note: Tommy is the author of an article, "The Mutilation Mystery Continues", which was published in the April 1980 issue of UFO Report (333 Johnson Ave.; Brooklyn, New York 11206, \$1.50.

LETTERS (Continued)

I was intrigued by the snippet concerning the connection (if there is any) between the rape/mute of Mater Terra in search of fuels and the rape/mute of the archetype of the human female — cows ("Canada In A Quandary", STIGMATA #8). Too bad you don't air your speculation in-depth. You could obtain a wider audience drawn from ecologists and feminists. Don't be too hungup on the desire to only take up things fully "after the jury's in" because you and I and everyone are the jury and how will we reach a verdict unless we deliberate? Also, the NEW YORK TIMES and other prestigious "news brokers", on any given day guess and speculate to no end, all under the guise of "authoritative commentary". Bust through the hype and speculate; you are in a position to be credible and, believe me, we're ready to listen.

Michael Hoffman
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Editor's comment: In the mutilation "field", including here at Project Stigma, there is no lack of speculation and "deliberation". For us to choose between publishing more speculative material or pursuing the emphasis on a more-or-less factual presentation — we are not necessarily faced with clear-cut, black-vs.-white options. At the outset, the purpose of STIGMATA was to provide mutilation investigators and the interested public with objective reportage on the scope of the phenomenon. We still emphasize this, though we have not excluded speculative material from some past issues, nor will we necessarily do so in the future. One forum for speculation is, in fact, this letters section. Any speculative material in question will be judged on its own merits, or lack thereof. As for our failure to "air...speculation in-depth", as in the article to which Mr. Hoffman refers: This failure was due to a lack of time and (paper) space — items in short supply at Project Stigma. For the most part, when faced with the option of publishing objective material or "authoritative commentary", we'll opt for the former. We appreciate Mr. Hoffman's comments and concern.

I will tell you about our experiences with cattle mutilations in our area, western South Dakota near the North Dakota border. On

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the morning of October 14, 1974, I was moving a grain drill to a vacant farmstead I own. A renter had cattle in the pasture, including the farmstead. In the farmyard I came upon a cow I at first thought had died of natural causes. When I looked at her, the first thing I noticed was the tongue had been removed through a ten-inch-or-larger slit in the bottom of the jaw. All the cuts to do this were long and straight, and appeared to be made with a very sharp instrument. Blood veins seemed to be oozing in and out as if the heart were still pumping, but there was no blood. All 4 teats were missing, cut very neatly off right next to the udder. One ear was cut off, part from one direction and then the other, as though the knife wasn't sharp enough to take it in one try.

I reported the incident to the sheriff's office at 9:00 and two law officers came out at 2:30. They took some pictures, talked to a veterinarian, and told the cow's owner it was predators; that is, small animals like a fox. Predators couldn't be right as a deer in the area that died at the same time was soon completely eaten, while nothing touched the cow. Fox tracks were observed 150 feet from the cow.

As the law officers left, I brought my wife in to see the cow. The first thing she noticed and called to my attention was a 1½ inch wide, 2 inch long rectangle pull-tab-like cut from the anus toward the vulva, which had been neatly sliced around and appeared to be pulled out and cut off like a sleeve. This is not especially visible on a black cow. The hair on the cow looked as though something had been poured on it. There was no odor, at least not that we could detect. Either that or the cow had been totally wet like a horse lathered up. After talking to another rancher in the immediate area, who also must have had his cow done the same night, the cow owner came back and found a needle mark on the neck next to the jugular vein. Thus the reason there didn't seem to be any blood. The state crime lab man indicated to the neighbor that the sleeve-like removal of the intestine and uterine area was common. The one front leg was in a position as though held back by a rope, while the stiffness of rigor mortis shown plainly in the other legs. We never checked for a broken neck although the cow looked like she may have been dropped from the air where we found her (worked on in another location). It was a very dark (moonless) night with high winds.

LETTERS (Continued)

Further inquiry on our part indicated there were two other mutes in our county (Perkins) that same night. In North Dakota that night there were five reports. A horse in Emmons or McIntosh Counties was chalked up to liver trouble, liver indicated disease. Oows were reported in counties closer to the Minnesota border and one cow somewhere south of Minot. Associated or not, a neighbor saw a brown car come out of the area (of the mutilation described above) past his place every day about 2:00 or 2:30 for 3 or 4 days before the mute. He never saw the car before or after. He tried to find the car or one like it in town but couldn't.

(Name withheld by request)
Perkins County, South Dakota

Although STIGMATA is not a UFO journal, we cannot - and we have not - ignored the possibility of a UFO "link" with the mutilation phenomenon. Cliff Stone, who wrote the letter below, could easily be jeopardizing his military career by requesting that we and others publish his letter. His comments could well be germane to mute research, as well as to ufology. Using the Freedom of Information Act, Cliff has accumulated information on mutilations, as well as UFO's. He has been instrumental in attempting to elicit Congressional interest in the mutilations probe:

I am a private UFO researcher and my findings to date are the basis for this letter. I ask no one to take my word for what I am about to say concerning UFOs. However, I assure you everything I am about to say is fact and may be verified by using the Freedom of Information and Privacy Acts to obtain the documents that I obtained from government agencies. It is my hope that Congress will wake up and create a new committee to do a scientific study of UFOs. The fact is the U.S. Senate was lied to by the Pentagon in 1968 during the Senate hearings into UFOs.

First, let us look at the conclusions of the U.S. Air Force's Project Blue Book, the USAF's so-called Scientific Study of UFO's by the University of Colorado and the review of the "Scientific Study" by "a panel of the National Academy of Sciences". Those conclusions were "(1) No UFO reported, investigated and evaluated by the Air Force has ever given any indication of threat to our na-

LETTERS (Continued)

tional security; (2) There has been no evidence submitted to or discovered by the Air Force that sightings catagorized as 'unidentified' represent technological developments or principles beyond the range of present-day scientific knowledge; and (3) There has been no evidence indicating that sightings catagorized as 'unidentified' are extraterrestrial vehicles."

The truth of the matter is that the fairy tale Cinderella is based more on fact then the above conclusions. You see, neither of the above study groups were presented with all the facts. Let me cite you just one example. To be sure, there are more.

In March 1967, Cuban Air Defense radar picked up a UFO over Cuban air space. Two Cuban jets were sent to intercept the UFO. When the jets made the intercept of the UFO, they tried to make radio contact with the object but were unable to do so. The jets at this time were ordered by Cuban Air Defense to shoot the UFO down. When the jets tried to fire, the UFO vaporized one of the jets. This incident was monitored by the U.S. Air Force's Security Service. To wit: Detachment A, 6947th Security Squadron based at Homestead Air Force Base. This report never was filed with Project Blue Book. In fact it was (and still is) classified at least Secret by the National Security Agency, "in the interest of national Defense". While this case does not prove UFO's to be extraterrestrial, it does shoot down the first two of the above "official" conclusions.

On December 17, 1969, the Secretary of the Air Force announced the termination of Project Blue Book, thus ending the investigation of UFOs. However, apparently no one told the State Department, National Security Agency, Central Intelligence Agency, Defense Intelligence Agency and every other intelligence organization in the United States. All of these agencies are still investigating reports of UFO's. I have copies of Intelligence Reports dating all the way into the late 1970's from these agencies showing that they still have an interest in UFO's.

President Carter stated before being elected President, "If I become President, I'll make every piece of information this country has on UFO sightings available to the public and the scientists." To date he has not done this. Every intelligence agency within the Intelligence Family of the United States has classified information and intelligence reports on UFO's. These documents are class-

LETTERS (Continued)

ified "in the interest of national defense". I have letters from these intelligence agencies denying me information on UFO's because the information I was requesting was classified "in the interest of national defense". How can something as non-existent (as the U.S. Government claims UFO's are) be a matter of national defense? How can the U.S. Government justify classifying something "in the interest of national defense" when that something "has never given any indication of threat to our national security"?

I would like to ask your readers to write their Congressmen and demand a new scientific study of the UFO phenomenon based on all the facts, not just what the intelligence agencies wish to release. We the American Public have a right to know the truth. We the American Public have a right to know what our government is doing about UFO's.

SSG Clifford E. Stone, 301-50-0182
 HQ Det, Hanau Mil Comm
 APO New York 09165

Regarding the letter on mutes and "lumes" from "Name Withheld - Eastern U.S." in our last issue, reader comments have included the following:

I enjoyed STIGMATA #8 thoroughly - very well done, as usual. My only criticism would be the anonymous letter concerning "lumes", which I consider borderline lunatic. Jacques Vallee will be fascinated with that one. It is a fascinating bit of craziness; however, I would have preferred to have seen that space devoted to more substantial material.

Another reader commented as follows, in a letter we forwarded to the "Eastern U.S." letter-writer:

I've read most of the books you mentioned and would like to comment on the serviceman who commits atrocities. As a Marine in W.W.II, I was often allied (but never officially connected with) the Marine Raiders. These were surely a different breed of man. Killing - mutilation - and other so-called war horrors seemed to come very naturally to them. It was Eleanor Roosevelt who wanted all such types

LETTERS (Continued)

brought back, placed in camps and mind-washed before allowing them to return to society.

"...see and overhear conversations (even when cloistered within the walls of otherwise optically opaque confines)...". This was part of your letter. With Sonic Holography, all of what you are writing about is now being done. Three dimensional pictures are possible of submarines that are under the water to appear projected above the water - with the crew and all compartments in full view. This also applies to a solid building with people inside... nothing escapes surveillance.

By the way, are you familiar with Dr. Peter Beter's audio-tape letters? In one instance he mentions that President Jimmy Carter has been done away with, and in his place is a Rhobetoid that is made from a process called "an ultra-sonic cerebral hologram". Of course the cries of the public put Dr. Beter either in the super-genius class or they are ready to commit him tomorrow.

Your mention of satellites was most interesting. Please see Subliminal story enclosed (*Editor's note: reprinted below*). I personally feel that satellites are one of the main tools in bringing about 1984. There is so much more to all of this that it does boggle at times. However, like the Prisoner character on TV, I shall forever shout - "I am not a number, I'm a man".

(Name withheld)- Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

Editor's note: The letter-writer refers to the following wire service (UPI) item which appeared in a Pennsylvania newspaper on Nov. 11, 1974, titled "Space Brainwash Possible". Dateline: United Nations:

Satellites orbiting the earth can beam messages directly to television sets in viewers' homes to brainwash people without them even knowing it, according to a United Nations report. By sending out so-called subliminal messages that are recorded only in viewers' subconscious, the technique can be used to mass-hypnotize and influence politics of other countries, the report said. The report cited some experts' opinions that the use of such 1984-style techniques amounts to brainwashing. The use of subliminal messages is banned in some Western European nations but not in the U.S.

More On Choppers

As a supplement to the information we have presented regarding animal mutilations and unidentified helicopters in our separate publication, THE CHOPPERS...AND THE CHOPPERS, we offer the following from the first mutilations newsletter, Ed Sanders' THE CATTLE REPORT. Ed compiled the following account from news articles and his own interviews in mute-plagued Logan County, Colorado, and published it in THE CATTLE REPORT (Issue No. 1, March 1977).

THE AIR FORCE & THE GREAT CHASE OF NORTHERN COLORADO

The night of Wednesday, August 21, 1975 provided an example of a possible deliberate deception maneuver by cattle mutilators near Logan County, Colorado. The incident involved possible decoy men disguised as Air Force officers who may have been used to confuse and to throw off course a concerted land and air chase of helicopters thought to be involved in the plague of cattle mutilations in Logan County and nearby counties.

Logan County is located in north east Colorado sugar beet, grain and cattle country. During that summer the helicopters had been flying by night over Logan County, and the cattle had been found mutilated in the morning. Sheriff's officers and even private groups (such as I-80 Control - a group of CBers) had been organizing to give chase to these phantom copters.

Around 10 PM on Wed., 8-21, a helicopter was reported heading into Logan County from the east, and Sheriff Tex Graves and his staff took chase. In addition to some 17 ground units that ultimately took part in the chase, Sheriff Graves rented a private plane in which 2 sheriff's officers and a pilot rode. The night was clear and the aircraft could run without lights. During the night, a pickup truck containing two purported Air Force officers began to assist the chase, claiming to be receiving over the radio in the truck radar information from Warren Air Force Base in Cheyenne, Wyoming, located northwest of Logan County. (There are a number of Minuteman missile sites in Logan County under the control of Warren Air Force Base.)

The Sheriff's vehicles on the ground were not equipped to pick up the Air Force frequencies so had to rely on the information relayed from the pickup with the A.F. men, who would relate the supposed location of the aircraft being chased as indicated by radar at the air force base.

Only the next day, after the chase was long over, did reporters and Sheriff's officers learn from Warren AFB that they had no radar system that could have been used to track the copters. The only radar facilities they had, they said, were weather radar facilities. Sheriff Graves later referred to the alleged helpers as a "pickup with Air Force jokers playing games"

During the chase, which spilled over into southern Nebraska, the putative Air Force men in the pickup truck kept announcing that "radar" indicated that there was another aircraft flying near the chase plane rented by the Logan County Sheriff's Dept. "They reported radar showed this other aircraft around our plane at various times, but the officers and pilot, three men with glasses, never saw a thing," (and it was a moonlit night) Sheriff Graves told the Greeley, Colorado TRIBUNE.

The chase ended around 4:30 in the morning near a missile site in southwestern Nebraska, when the spotter plane lost sight of the phantom copter. The plane, reporter Bill Jackson of the Sterling, Colorado, JOURNAL-ADVOCATE, told us, "saw the lights of the thing below them, and you know, it was a clear night. And when the light went out, that's what everybody thought, that they'd landed, but when the plane came down to 100-150 feet, he couldn't see anything..... The only thing that was there was a missile silo."

Several questions remain after this incident:

(1) Were the two officers from the Air Force merely practical jokers having fun with local law enforcement? (It must be remembered that, in addition to Logan County officers, the Nebraska State Police and the Kimball County, Nebraska, Sheriff's office were also involved.)

(2) Were the two men merely masquerading as Air Force personnel

and were they actually part of the mutilation network? (This network must have spent millions of dollars on copter fuel, maintenance, security and man-hours in the twenty-two or so states that have suffered mutilations.)

(3) Sad to ask is this: is the United States Air Force involved in supplying cover for the mutilators?

Sources: Interviews with Logan County Sheriff's Office, and with Bill Jackson, STERLING JOURNAL-ADVOCATE. Further references, see: AP dispatch from Kimball, Nebraska, printed in OMAHA WORLD-HERALD, 8-22-75. See also: Greeley, Colorado TRIBUNE, 8-22-75; STERLING JOURNAL-ADVOCATE, 8-21-75.

MORE ON MYSTERY HELICOPTERS: The area that Vincent White describes in the following letter of 5-16-79 was subjected to numerous livestock rustling and mystery helicopter incidents in 1973-1974:

My brother recently returned from a wilderness and canoeing excursion. He spent quite a bit of time near a tiny place called Fredericktown. This is in Madison County, not far from St. Francois County. It was while he was in this area that he heard many large copters flying about both during the night and day. They seemed to be coming into this desolate and unpopulated area empty and then leaving loaded. On one occasion he was within a quarter of a mile of a hovering Chinook. My brother is very familiar with military aircraft and insignia. This event occurred on the first of May (1979) in the middle of the day. This chopper was hovering as low as he'd ever seen a Chinook hover. It was "right in the trees" (This spot was on a slope between two small "mountains"). It was completely unmarked and a strange green unlike anything he'd seen before. He was surprised at the lack of insignia. Either that day or the day after an F-5 or possibly something resembling an F-18 flew quickly overhead once at medium altitude. He did not specifically ask about cattle mutilations in the area of the few farmers there. It was his impression that the farmers were very nervous and "spooked" about something and reluctant to talk to strangers.

Vincent White - Kansas City, Missouri

Old Mutes?

Few accounts of things-resembling-mutilations would antedate the following sheep-slaughter story from the year 1606, submitted to us by Miss Elizabeth Hilts of Regina, Saskatchewan, who writes:

The sheep incident I mentioned is in my private book of "Oddities" and appears to derive from a diary (or other personal papers) from the court of James I of England. The quotation is:

10 February 1606: The minds of men are much troubled with a strange accident-lately fallen out, which yet by no means can be discovered, about the City of London and some of the shires adjoining. Whole slaughters of sheep have been made, in some places to the number of 100, in others less, where nothing is taken from the sheep but their tallow and some inward parts, the whole carcasses and fleece remaining still behind. Of this are sundry conjectures, but most agree that it tendeth towards some fireworks.

(I wonder if there is an implication of singeing or burning to the animals in that statement.)

The paragraph appears in: A JACOBAN JOURNAL, being a Record of Those Things Most Talked About...1603-1606, by G.G. Harrison. London, Routledge, rev. 1946, p. 279.

The original source was: THE COURT AND TIMES OF JAMES I, edited from the Collections of Thomas Birch, by the author of the Memoirs of Sophia Dorothea, in two volumes. London 1848 (Vol. I, pp.44-45).

Gerald W. Admires of Holt, Missouri has reminded us that, with this being an election year, we should re-print the following notice, which appeared originally in STIGMATA No. 4 (Summer 1978):

WE ASK THE READERS OF STIGMATA TO AID IN DISPELLING ANY TENDENCY ON THE PART OF LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL TO COVER UP LIVESTOCK MUTILATION INFORMATION. IF YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE IN YOUR COUNTY WHO HAS HAD STOCK MUTILATED, URGE THEM TO REPORT IT TO THE SHERIFF - AND TO PROJECT STIGMA (P.O. Box 1094; Paris, TX 75460; 214-784-5922). ENCOURAGE YOUR SHERIFF TO INVESTIGATE MUTILATIONS OBJECTIVELY AND TO CONFER WITH OTHER SHERIFFS AND INVESTIGATORS. IF HE REFUSES TO INVESTIGATE, HE'S NOT DOING HIS JOB - REMEMBER THAT ON ELECTION DAY.

In the next edition of STIGMATA: The mutes - a global phenomenon?; The latest 1980 reports from Colorado, Kansas, South Dakota and (?)

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